

CLAIMS

I claim:

- 5 1. An external lubricant filter system for automatic transmissions having a lubricant pump, said system comprising:

a modified transmission lubricant pan assembly and
an external spin on-off lubricant filter canister removably connected to said modified pan.

- 10 2. An external lubricant filter system for automatic transmissions according to Claim 1 wherein said modified transmission pan assembly includes a wall having internal and external surfaces and a filter adapter fixedly secured within the wall between the internal and external surfaces, said adapter further including an externally threaded pipe nipple, a lubricant entry port, a plenum and a filter canister sealing surface.

- 15 3. An external lubricant filter system for automatic transmissions according to Claim 2 wherein said pan assembly further includes an inlet chamber and an outlet chamber both fixedly attached to the internal surface of the wall of said pan.

- 20 4. An external lubricant filter system for automatic transmissions according to Claim 2 wherein said pan assembly further includes a lubricant pick up assembly and a lubricant discharge tube.

5. An external lubricant filter system for automatic transmissions according to Claim 4 wherein said pick up assembly includes a cup portion, a pick up tube, and a flange portion, the flange portion being fixedly, sealingly and cooperatively connected to said inlet chamber.

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6. An external lubricant filter system for automatic transmissions according to Claim 4 wherein said discharge tube further includes lower and upper ends, the lower end having a lower shoulder and being fixedly and sealingly attached to the outlet chamber, and the upper end having an upper shoulder and being fixedly, sealingly and cooperatively attached to the transmission lubricant pump.

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